NM State University accelerates federal compliant research

Canonical | Ubuntu <hello@news.canonical.com> **Jul 1, 2026, 3:00 PM**
To: nonvikan.1991.1.augustt@mailfence.com

Hi Nonvikan Karl-Augustt,

When the stakes are high and national security is on the line, every decision matters. Just ask the team at New Mexico State University's Physical Science Laboratory (PSL).

With the introduction of the **Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) 2.0 program and FIPS 140 validated cryptography**, PSL was under pressure to find a new operating system that would meet these stringent compliance standards. At the same time the right choice would need to be easy to use for their team of in-house researchers and student hires.

PSL was using CentOS, which was about to be discontinued. This sent them on a mission to find a cost-effective, easy-to-use, and compliant alternative.

The feedback from the team at PSL says it all. As Ed Zenisek, IT Manager at PSL, puts it, "Info on **Ubuntu is right there at our fingertips**. Anything we need to know is always just a Google search away, **so whatever issues we run into are easy to solve**".

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Best regards,
Canonical Team

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